service have not been provided are Sonamura, Bishalghar, Khowai, Belonia, Sabroom, Amarpur, Dharamnagar, Kailashahar, Kamchanpur, Ambassa, Kemalpur, Longtorai Valley and Gandhachera.

(c) and (d) Mobile Service Providers have plans to cover all major towns up to Sub-Divisional Headquarters during 2005 subject to Techno-commercial feasibility and clearance from Ministry of Home Affairs for towns falling within 10 Km of the International border.

(e) Yes, Sir.

Rural telephone obligation

1664. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Telecom Regulatory Authority of India has proposed switching over to revenue sharing regime for collection of Access Deficit Charge, the money to be paid by operators of BSNL for carrying out rural telephone obligations;

(b) if so, whether this move could lead to a fall in tariff especially from mobile phones to fixed line phones;

(c) if so, to what extent this proposal would be beneficial to the telephone users; and

(d) to what extent, rural telephone obligations would be met by this decision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has issued a Consultation paper on "Access Deficit Review" on 23.6.2004 seeking comments of the various Stake Holders on various issues including the collection of Access Deficit as a percentage of revenue share. TRAI has not taken any decision so far.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of (a) above.